



“I am proud of my job and my family is proud of me too”

Kabul 16 January 2017 - Tahera is one of the over 65,000 dedicated frontline workers who are working tirelessly to eradicate polio from Afghanistan. For the past year, she has been working as a volunteer polio vaccinator in Bamyan province, going from house to house in her community to vaccinate children during immunization campaigns.

“Polio is a very dangerous disease and people often underestimate how important and effective the vaccine is in preventing the irreversible consequences of the disease,” Tahera says. “I joined the polio programme because I want to raise awareness about the polio vaccine and its benefits to children in my community.”

Most of Afghanistan remains polio-free with the circulation of the virus confined to small areas in the southern, eastern and south-eastern parts of the country. In 2016, 12 wild poliovirus cases were reported, down from the 20 cases reported in 2015 and 28 in 2014. One case has been reported this year.

